

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 PRS-01

SP-03 FEA-02 OMB-01 SWF-02 USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 DRC-01 /230 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4061

UNCLAS USUN 1775

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: UNGA, EGEN, ECOSOC

SUBJ: 6TH SPECIAL SESSION: SPECIAL MEASURES

1. INFORMATION COPY OF LETTER OF MAY 9 FROM SYG
WALDHEIM TO SECRETARY KISSINGER QUOTED BELOW:

2. QUOTE 9 MAY 1974

YOUR EXCELLENCY WILL BE AWARE OF THE EXTREMELY
CRITICAL SITUATION NOW CONFRONTING A NUMBER OF DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES AS A RESULT OF SHARP INCREASES IN THE PRICES
OF ESSENTIAL IMPORTS. AS ITS RECENT SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION,
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCLUDED THAT A SITUATION HAS BEEN
CREATED WHICH, IF LEFT UNTENDED, WILL MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE
FOR SUCH COUNTRIES TO FINANCE ESSENTIAL IMPORTS, THEREBY
GENERATING A DETERIORATION IN THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE OF
HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WHO ARE ALREADY DESPERATELY
POOR. ACCORDINGLY, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECIDED THAT
EMERGENCY MEASURES ARE NEEDED TO MITIGATE THE DIFFICULTIES
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OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY

THE PRESENT CRISIS. THE ASSEMBLY STRESSED THAT THE FIRST AND MOST PRESSING TASK OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS TO ENABLE THESE COUNTRIES TO MEET THE SHORT-FALL IN THEIR BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS POSITIONS WITH THE AIM OF MAINTAINING UNIMPAIRED ESSENTIAL IMPORTS FOR THE DURATION OF THE COMING 12 MONTHS.

AS A FIRST STEP IN THE SPECIAL PROGRAMME, THE ASSEMBLY REQUESTED ME TO LAUNCH AN EMERGENCY OPERATION AND TO INVITE THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND OTHER POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTORS TO ANNOUNCE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE OR INTIMATE THEIR INTENTION TO DO SO BY 15 JUNE 1974, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT COMMITMENTS AND MEASURES OF ASSISTANCE ANNOUNCED OR ALREADY TAKEN BY SOME COUNTRIES. IN THIS CONNEXION, I WISH TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THE ASSEMBLY STRESSED THAT THE ASSISTANCE TO BE PROVIDED UNDER THE SPECIAL PROGRAMME SHOULD BE ADDITIONAL TO THE EXISTING LEVELS OF AID AND PROVIDED AT A VERY EARLY DATE TO THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE EXTENT ON A GRANT BASIS AND, WHERE THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, OF SOFT TERMS. THE ASSEMBLY ALSO INDICATED A NUMBER OF MEASURES THAT COULD BE TAKEN BY MEMBER STATES IN ORDER TO ASSIST THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES.

I AM TAKING IMMEDIATE STEPS, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE EXECUTIVE HEADS OF THE COMPETENT ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM, TO WORK OUT THE PROCEDURES AND ESTABLISH THE MECHANISMS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMERGENCY OPERATION. A TRUST FUND IS BEING OPENED AT UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS TO RECEIVE CONTRIBUTIONS IN CASH TO THE EMERGENCY OPERATION. I HAVE ALSO INITIATED CONSULTATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING A PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF THE ORDER OF MAGNITUDE OF THE NEEDS OF THE MOST AFFECTED COUNTRIES.

I SHOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU COULD INFORM ME OF YOUR GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE EMERGENCY OPERATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO AS TO FACILITATE THE PROVISION OF TIMELY RELIEF TO THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES. I HOPE THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE WILL

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BE AS PROMPT AND AS GENEROUS AS THE PRESENT SITUATION DEMANDS.

HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

KURT WALDHEIM
SECRETARY-GENERAL
UNITED NATIONS

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